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GPO 954-546

January 14, 1974

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The attached communication from the Department requests limited investigation into a possible violation of 18 USC 610 which prohibits corporations from making political contributions in connection with Federal elections and prohibits political committees from accepting such contributions.

The Department received information from the General Accounting Office (GAO) that a political committee, the Shirley Chisholm for President Committee, received three contributions from corporations during the period of the 1972 Democratic Presidential primaries Chisholm is a Democratic Congresswoman from Brooklyn, New York.

On 1/14/74 Craig Donsanto of the Criminal Division of the Department advised that three of the Chisholm Committee's officers have previously been contacted by GAO and the Department regarding alleged solicitation of corporate funds, however, according to Mr. Donsanto they have not been sufficiently responsive concerning the matter. He requested that who was the

of the Chisholm Committee; for the Committee; and for the Committee, bee interviewed regarding the particulars of a possible violation of 18 USC 610.

Investigation is being ordered and the office of Congresswoman Chisholm is being advised that investigation has been requested by the Department of Justice.

CM PEGUM EM

Assoc. Dir. Form DJe150 (Ed. 4-26-65) Asst. Dir.: Admin. 3 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PARTMENT Memorandum Ext. Allies File 8 Cop Janua TO DATE: Inspection . : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation Intell. \_ Laboratory . Plan. & Eval. HEP: TJM: CCD: mH Spec. Inv. \_ Henry E. Petersen 72-017-50 Training \_ Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division Legal Coun. <sub>-</sub> Telephone Rm. .b7C SUBJECT: Shirley Chisholm for President Committee, Director Sec'y . 18 U.S.C. 610. Attached hereto is a copy of a portion of a referral which, this Division received from the Office of Federal Elections, General Accounting Office, indicating that the Shirley Chisholm for President Committee received three contributions from corporations during the period of the 1972 Democratic Presidential primaries. information contained in the attachment was developed by the Office of Rederal Elections during an audit of the subject Committee's 'books and records, and interviews with The receipt and the retention of these three corporate contributions which together total \$686.00, could constitute prosecutable violations of 18 U.S.C. 610 by the Committee, as well as by each individual committee agent who participated in the solicitation and/ or the receipt of these contributions with knowledged that they had come from corporations. Accordingly, in order to assist this Division determine whether such violations may be present, the Bureau is requested to and to ascertain the particulars concerning the solicitation and receipt of the three subject contributions, and whether the subject monies have been refunded to the contributing corporations. If a claim of refund is made, the Bureau should obtain corrobórative documentation, preferably in the form of copies of the checks representing said reimbursement. last known address was Last known address was We do not have a street address for His address was identified on the subject committee's registration statement as which post office box we have ascertained was taken out in the name of Shirley Chisholm herself. medialny al DOJ-1973-04

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						woman Chis			and
we have	no	objection	.to	the	Bureau's	advising	the	Congresswom	an of
this in	ves	tigation.							

Attachments

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### Corporate Contributions

Section 610 of title 18, United States Code, prohibits corporations from making political contributions in connection with Federal elections and prohibits political committees from accepting such contributions.

Our examination of the Committee's records indicated that

they received at least three contributions from corporations:

100 from New York,

New York; \$200 from Spartacus Securities, Inc., Brooklyn, New York;

Officers of the Committee, Spartacus Securities, Inc., and White Plains Manor, Inc. told us that they were unaware of the inlegality of corporate contributions to political committees.

and \$386 from White Plains Manor, Inc., Bronx, New York.

for the \$100 contribution on May 16, 1972, and has furnished us with a copy of the cancelled reimbursement check.

stated he would refund the other two corporate
considerations and send us copies of the cancelled refund checks
as soon as they are available. To date we have not received copies
of the checks.

The making and acceptance of the corporate contributions appear to be violations of section 610, title 18, United States Code.

56-4838-2

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ENCLOSURE

### ADMINISTRATIVE (cont'd).

All persons interviewed in this matter were advised that the investigation was being conducted at the specific request of the US Department of Justice.

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, <b>.</b>	NEW YORK						
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note	ed that on	2/4/74,	ind:	icated	that the	document	s:
shou	ıld be ava	ilable by	2/8/74.				
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Will continue efforts to locate and interview

-B\*-COVER PAGE

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Ĉopyato:	1 - USA, EDNY
Report of:	2/4/74 New York, New York
Field Office File #;	56-488 Bureau File #:-
Title:	SHIRLEY CHISHOLM FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEES
	18 USC 610
Character:	ELECTION LAWS
Synopsis:	
	advised sole function was
Committee	n checking account of Shirley Chisholm for President
designation	
General Acc	counting Office (GAO) audit of Committee's records
in 1973. 🗆	declined interview on advice of
counsel.	Efforts to locate
S (3)	for the Committee, unsuccessful.
advised he	is unpaid volunteer to the Committee and
is familian	with the three alleged corporate contributions
	nittee. stated matter of refunds has been
resolved ar	nd he would make corroborative documentation available
by 2/0//4.	requested Committee officials not be interviewed
and that al	l inquiries should be directed to him.

ENCLOSURES (2) to USA, EDNY

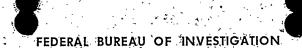
Enclosed as background information for the assistance of the USA, EDNY are copies of two self-explanatory documents forwarded to the Bureau by the Department.

### DETAILS:

This report contains the results of a <u>limited</u> investigation.

PA

This investigation was predicated upon receipt by the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of a communication dated January 14, 1974 from Headquarters, FBI. Enclosed with that communication were copies of 1) a Departmental memo to the Director and 2) a portion of a referral to the Department from the Office of Federal Elections, General Accounting Office. The Department requested therein interviews of three persons associated with the Shirley Chisholm for President Committee regarding their knowledge of the solicitation and refund of three alleged corporate contributions, totaling \$686.00, to that Committee.

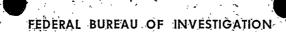


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	such unti	I it was bro	ought to	his atte	ention a	orior to	the inc	ulrv
	into the	Committee's	records	by GAO.	Despi	e his c	lesignati	on as
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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the groperty of the FBI and is foamed to your agency. if and, its, contents, are, not to be distributed outside your agency.

The address of 1028 St. Johns Place, Brooklyn, New York, is the former address of \_\_\_\_\_\_SHIRLEY CHISHOLM.

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Date of transcription 2/4/74	- <del>2</del>
	*
and figure in the first of the second of	
contacted the New York Office	
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in response to a	\$
nrior inquiry with his office. He advised that to the Shirley Chisholm for President	a :
Committee. He stated that he became	Ė -
but declined to provide the exact date. He provided	1
the following information:	
	,
he is familiar with the	
· matter of three corporate contributions to the Committee. He	
considers the matter of the corporate contributions resolved because of the following reasons:	
positions of air attaintiff redoctor	* ,* -
1. \$100.00 from	
- according to a report of the	•
General Accounting Office (GAO).	- 14
his corporation for the \$100.00	
contribution, thus making the	,
contribution, thus making the contribution to the committee a	, i
personal, rather than a corporate,	i -
contribution.	· -
A SAME THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO	• .
2. \$200.00 from Spartacus Securities, Inc., Brooklyn, New York - the Committee has	- **
reimbursed this corporation in the amount	 
of \$200.00.	
	. ,
3. \$386.00 from White Plains Manor, Inc.,	.~
Bronx, New York - unsuccessful efforts	T A
have been made by him to locate this corporation in an effort to determine	,
the specific circumstances surrounding	7.
this contribution. The corporation is	-
apparently no longer in existence. Persons	
knowledgeable about campaign affairs have	•
indicated to him that this extraordinary	
amount possibly represented a contribution	
Brooklyn, New York	

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Date dictated

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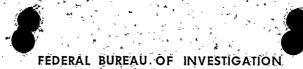
by a group of persons rather than a corporation. The group possibly consisted of a group of Hispanic women who catered a campaign social event in Bronx, New York. He would provide the FBE with all information and documentation, including an affidavit, pertinent to this contribution at a later date.

He will attempt to make available by February 8, 1974 copies of all corroborative documentation pertaining to the above contributions and the single repayment by the Committee.

He requested as Counsel to the Committee that no other officials of the Committee be interviewed by the FBI without initially contacting him. He indicated that he desires to be cooperative but wishes that all inquiries be directed to him.

·	*,5	He	ad	vised	that	he	does	not	Irnow	the.	curre	nt	wher	eab	out	S	b6
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cou.	ldj	possib	1у	locate	him	In	the	Lutur	e.			•					

He stated that he would recontact the New York Office of the FBL when all documents have been assembled.



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	by regarding	igation (FBI) and that t the matter of cor irley Chisholm for	Vork Office of the advised that he he he he included that he he included that he he itributions from the President Committer with the matter	id been <u>notIff</u> ted him, ree corporati tee in 1972.	ons
	Special P	pent (SA)	a conversation to and or Fresident Commi	ttee, Brookly	1. New
	He was ar investiga corporati	tion concerning coons:	t that the FBI was ontributions from	ontacted by Si conducting a the following	9
		2. \$200.00 from Brooklyn, Ne	Spantacus Securit w York) White Plains Hand		b6
	tion upo	At this point, he wish the advice of the from discussing	e expressed a pers hed not to provide	any rurtner to refrain	until a
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is a former, not a current, address of his.

He indicated that mail has been received pertinent to this matter, because which was erroneously addressed to

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NY 56-488	े हुन्हरू १५ १ -
At Brooklyn, New York and New York, New York	
On January 17, 1974; in an effort to locate the current address of Shirley Chisholm for Congress Committee, an attempt was made to obtain the information from the District Office of Representative SHIRLEY CHISHOLM, 1149 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, New York	b6 b70
(596-3500). It was determined that the office was closed on that date.  A telephonic inquiry with that office on January 24,	
1974 resulted in information that could be contacted through Between January 25, 1974 and February 1,	
1974, efforts to locate at his business were unsuccessful, and messages were left requesting him to contact the Federal Burea of Investigation (FBI). On February 4, 1974, although he	b6 b70
preferred not to provide unpublished telephone number, he would contact himself and have contact the FBI.	
to locate at that address and appropriate searches of	
directories reflect one as a resident at that address.	b6 b70
On January 22, 1974; it was also determined that also did not reside at	

On Ja	nuary 22.	1974. an in	quiry was	made at L	. •
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# FEDERAL GUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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### LEADS (Continued)

New York notes that based on the interview on	* 
2/9/74, of	$\prod_{i=1}^{n}$
the CHISHOIM Committee, it is unlikely that either	
or will consent to be interviewed based on	7
advice.	┛ .

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

A		. K ,	5 m	•		*		
Copy to:	1 - US	A, EDŅY	,		•			,
Report of: Date:	2/19/7	4		Office:	New	York,	New Yo	ork
Field Office File #:	56-488	•		Bureau File	. #:	•	•	*
litle:	SHIRLE COMMIT	Y CHISHOLM	FOR PRES	•				
	``	· • • •				•	• • ′	
Sharacter:	18 USC	610	•	,	•	•		,
	ELÉCTI	on laws	•				* .	*
signature corporate 2.) A xe to one of Inc., Bro taken forth the contr Manor, In indicated he would consent t	lable to outlin contrince the the labeled contribution constant beadvise of internal control of the control of	nderstandir of \$386 to 0 White Pla ecause of r views by th	gent: 1. mittee's ctaling \$ ck in the ations, S ne Commit ng of the commit ng of the commit ng of the ations Road cossible and ne FBI. and	) A 1- posit 686, to amoun partace; 3 on circumittee , Bronitechnic	etter ion o the t of us Se .) A 2/8/7 mstan from x, Ne cal v	over n thre Commi \$200 r curiti depos 4, set ces su White w York iolati person	his e alle ttee; eayable es, ition ting rround Plain ons,	eged
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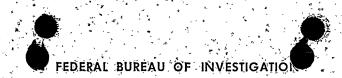
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On February 8, 1974.	=
telephonically contacted SA	and
advised that documentation previously requested i	
matter by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FB	
been prepared and was available in his office. H	le suggested
that SA appear at his office on February 9,	
and if he, was present, the documents would	be made
available.	



	Date of Iranscription	
		*
I	telephone number	
	for the SHIRLEY CHISHOLM for President Committee,	
•	made available to SA the following	* he
	documents, the originals of which are being maintained in	.b7C
	the possession of the New York Office of the Federal	
^	Bureau of Investigation (FBI):	
	parega or investigation (LDE)?	- <del>*</del> \$
į.	advised that	
<b>,</b>	collectively reflect the position of the Committee	
	regarding allegations of three corporate contributions to	
	the Committee.	
	CHC COMMILCUCES	. *
-	He also advised that the copy of the check pay-	
	able to Spartacus Securities, Incorporated, in the amount	•
• ,	of \$200, represented repayment by the Committee for that	
	corporation's contributions.	, , , , ;
	He finally stated that he intended to advise	
	and not to consent to inter-	
	views by the FBI. He indicated that he was doing so be-	
	cause of possible technical violations of the federal law	. b6
	in this matter.	b7C
	The two documents and the copy of the check which	·
٠.	was obtained from are as follows:	4
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February 8, 1974

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Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation New York Office

201 East 69th Street New York, N. Y 10021

Re: Shirley Chisholm for President Committee

Dear Sir:

You had advised me that you were investigating the matter of three corporate contributions to the Shirley Chisholm for President Committee, and that it was desired that any evidence be furnished which demonstrated that the amounts contributed had been returned to the payors.

I have inquired into the three items in question, namely:

- (1) check of for \$100;
- (2) check of Spartacus Securities, Inc., for \$200;
- (3) check of White Plains Manor, Inc., for \$386.

(1)

It is noted that the report of the General Accounting Office states as follows (at page 8):

told us he reimbursed his corporation for the \$100 contribution on May 16, 1972, and has furnished us with a copy of the cancelled reimbursement check."

b6 b7C

Accordingly, I have advised the committee that it is my opinion that the \$100 which it had previously received from the corporation may now be considered by the committee as personal contribution, and that it may be so recorded and reported.

6.

b6 b7C

Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation

February 8, 1974

(2)

The contribution of \$200 made by Spartacus Securities, Inc. has been refunded to Spartacus Securities, Inc., and evidence of such refund in the form of a copy of a cancelled check to order of Spartacus Securities, Inc., in amount of \$200, is annexed hereto.

(3)

In my opinion, the check for \$386 received from White Plains Manor, Inc. was not a contribution from that corporation. The amount, per se, appeared to suggest that there was some special factor which marked the nature of the funds. Accordingly, I made inquiry in which I sought to trace the probable origin of this check. As a result of this inquiry, I have elicited facts which demonstrate that the sum of \$386 was not a contribution by the corporation. White Plains Manor, Inc. Annexed is the affidavit of which, in my opinion, strongly leads to the conclusion that the check was merely a transmittal accommodation extended by White Plains Manor, Inc. to a group of supporters of the Chisholm campaign.

I trust that the foregoing provides you with the information you desire.

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SK:JB Encls. (2) Sincerely yours,

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STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS

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I reside at

but I simply could not find it.

Sometime after April, 1973, following the audit by the General Accounting Office of the records of the Shirley Chisholm for President Committee, and after it was pointed out that several contributions by three corporation checks had been received by the committee and had been listed in its reports to the GAO, and that such contributions were illegal, I drove to the address of White Plains Manor, Inc. at 3510 White Plains Road, Bronx, New York. Since the contribution was said to be illegal, my purpose was to make a refund for the committee. I looked for the establishment,

Recently, reviewed with me the matters pertaining to the corporate checks. He quizzed me on the fact that it seemed strange that a catering place, or anyone else for that matter, would make a contribution of such an uneven amount as \$386.00. Finally, there emerged recollections on my part which, I believe, correctly trace the origin of this so-called "contribution".

I have now been requested by to

There was an occasion in the early period of the Shirley Chisholm for President campaign when I drove Mrs. Chisholm to the Bronx to attend an affair held in a building on White Plains Road, which affair was sponsored by

a group of Hispanic-American women. The affair was conducted by the women to raise funds to support the effort of Mrs.

Chisholm as the first black woman ever to be a candidate for the Presidency. Mrs. Chisholm had been invited to attend, and we drove there with several other of her aides.

I recall that I was unfamiliar with the route of travel. It was the first time I had ever used the Throggs Neck Bridge, and besides I was unfamiliar with the Bronx in general, and especially with the particular area we had to get to. I got lost in the Bronx and we travelled around in circles during the very cold afternoon. Since Mrs. Chisholm disapproves of any kind of speed in car travel, it became early evening by the time we-reached the location.

Actually, we could find no building number, and it was only the fact that there were a number of women on the street on the lockout for us, that we were able to find the place at all. I believe there was a bar on the street floor of the building, and we were escorted upstairs. There, in a hall, were many Spanish-speaking persons who were having light refreshments, and I believe, a children's band and other children were providing bits of entertainment. All of the discourse was in Spanish, so that only Mrs. Chisholm, in our party, could get the drift of what was being said.

I recall that, at some point, plates were passed around for a collection for the Chisholm campaign, and I myself placed 75¢ in coins onto the plate.

Again, at	request of	several da	ays '
ago, I have checked with		who is	b
Congresswoman Chisholm's			and

have learnt from him that the affair I had recollected
was a "cocktail sip" conducted on Sunday, February 20, 1972,
at White Plains Manor Ballroom, located at 3510 White
Plains Road, Bronx, N.Y. He further advised me that sometime
after the affair, some lady representatives of the group
brought a check for the net proceeds of the affair to the
Brooklyn office of Congresswoman Chisholm, and the check
was turned over to the Shirley Chisholm for President
Committee, had no recollection as to the name
of the payor on the check or its amount.

However, I have no doubt at all that this was the check of \$386. which was deposited in the committee's bank account, recorded as received from White Plains Manor, Inc., and subsequently so listed in the committee's report to the GAO. I have no doubt that the check was written as an accommodation to the women's group, and was not actually a contribution by the corporation, White Plains Manor, Inc.

Sworn to before me this

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STATEMENT RELATIVE TO FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT FILED BY THE SHIRLEY CHISHOLM FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE WITH U. S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.

The Shirley Chisholm for President Committee appends this prefatory statement to its complete and final report to the U. S. General Accounting Office as to campaign finances.

The purpose of this statement is to present a summary of the information and data relative to the contributions and expenditures handled by the national committee. An ancillary purpose is to make such materials readily available to the thousands of persons in all parts of the United States who actively participated in, or who contributed financially to, the Chisholm presidential campaign, and to all others who may be interested in the information.

The committee considers the dissemination of this information to be particularly necessary because of recent widespread publication of news stories which presented partial and distorted accounts of some aspects of the committee's interim reports of its financial data. The published accounts bore little or no resemblance to the full picture.

This finance report embraces the entire period of the campaign. The report covers the early and tentative beginnings in the Fall of 1971, and continues through the Democratic national nominating convention in July, 1972. Also covered is the period subsequent to the convention, up to and including the committee's final transactions in December, 1973.

In sum, the national Shirley Chisholm for President Committee received contributions totalling \$118,620.62. These contributions were made by thousands of persons situated in almost every state of the United States. The donors made their contributions individually or through groups.

The overwhelmingly greater number of contributions consisted of amounts ranging from 25¢ to \$5.00. The committee recorded the names of thousands of the contributors. Thousands of other contributors are unknown to the committee because their contributions formed part of cumulative sums collected at many places. Their coins and dollars were given at meetings and rallies held in schools and colleges, churches, community centers, and union halls, and at parties in private homes. The contributions of amounts under \$100 added up to \$26,266.55. Contributions by individuals of amounts of \$100 and over totalled \$50,964.19. Contributions by groups amounted to \$39,200.48. Bank interest and telephone refund were \$2,189.40.

Separate and apart from the contributions to the national committee were monies raised and used by local groups in many states. Such monies were used by the local groups in support of activities connected with statewide primaries and party caucuses and conventions.

All of the relatively meagre funds (relative to the multi-millions of dollars reported by other presidential campaign committees) received by the Chisholm national committee were expended towards fulfillment of the insatiable demands of a

movement which placed Mrs. Chisholm in the primary elections conducted in seventeen states. The whirlwind campaign was mounted during a period of less than five months. Democratic national convention adjourned in July, 1972, the committee held sizeable unpaid bills, and it was without funds sufficient to pay the bills. Proceeds from a recent fund-raising dinner, together with a personal contribution of \$3,000 from Congresswoman Chisholm, have been used to meet the deficit. fact, the deficit would have been significantly larger, except that expenses for the travel of the candidate and of some of her aides throughout state after state were charged to her through use of her American Express credit cards. Mrs. Chisholm was reimbursed by the committee for only a part of the heavy charges thus imposed upon her personally. She was by far the largest financial contributor to the campaign, having expended out-of-pocket \$32,599.50, and received reimbursement from the committee of \$14,974.34.

The committee carefully nurtured the funds which it received from the candidate's supporters. The monies were placed in a savings account, to earn interest during the periods of non-use. As needed, monies from the savings account were transferred by means of bookkeeping entries to a checking account maintained in the same bank.

The number of full-time campaign aides supported by the committee, each of them for periods varying from 2 to 5 months, never exceeded six persons at any given time. This small band performed the mammoth task of assisting Mrs. Chisholm in the planning, coordination, and execution of a national campaign which placed her candidacy and her carefully-postulated

program before Democratic voters across the nation.

Mrs. Chisholm's candidacy was not long pre-planned, nor was it based on established political organizations. From the day of her announcement, on January 25th, 1972, that she intended to seek the Democratic presidential nomination, a myriad of supporters sprang up from grass roots in all sections of the country. Her congressional office and this newly-formed national committee were swamped by the massive public response. An avalanche of mail cascaded into the offices. The committee was deluged with calls for information, literature, materials, speakers, organizers, and everything else which concerned citizens were entitled to demand. In retrospect, the dynamics of the catalysis generated by the Chisholm candidacy appear awesome and inspiring. A recount of how Mrs. Chisholm and her handful of dedicated, but inexperienced, aides met the demands of people - incessant demands which seemed to come from everywhere - is better stated in the Congresswoman's book, "The Good Fight". .

The committee concerned itself strictly with the business of safeguarding the monies received in support of the campaign for the nomination of Shirley Chisholm. Every dollar was banked, on record. Every dollar was expended by bank check, on record. The committee employed no fund-raisers, overt or covert. It maintained no secret caches of slush-fund cash. No bagmen were hired to surreptitiously receive unlawful

contributions. No one applied pressures or practiced extortions. No one planned or countenanced unfair campaign tactics, although its candidate was a victim of the dirty tricks of criminal saboteurs.

# Alleged Inadequate Record-Keeping and Incomplete Reporting

The committee has been criticized by the General Accounting Office for inadequacy of its record-keeping and for incompleteness of its reporting. Apparently, the criticism is justified to some extent. The reasons for the shortcomings probably are not as apparent.

The committee has consisted of two, three, sometimes four persons, each of us part-time volunteers otherwise regularly engaged in our usual businesses and occupations. None of us is a lawyer or an accountant. We had no prior experience with or conception of a campaign like this one; we knew little about the new or old campaign finance reporting laws; we could hardly keep up with the not-so-simple reporting forms. As daily events overtook us, we were beset and staggered by belated discoveries of additional reporting requirements.

It has been estimated for us, that if we could and did prepare and file all reports which may have been required, the number of such reports would have exceeded fifty.

It was a colossal task just to constantly keep abreast of a veritable avalanche of records. Admittedly, we had to make abbreviated recordings, but it appears to us that the records were reasonably adequate.

It has also been estimated that, to have maintained the detailed and precise records required by law and regulation, the full-time employment of a clerical staff of at least six persons would have been necessary. In addition, the constant supervision of an attorney or an experienced accountant would have been indispensable. To employ such personnel, and to provide the supporting facilities for such a staff, it is probable that the committee would have expended half of its funds.

None of these comments is intended as criticism of the law or the regulations. On the contrary, we have learned, through difficult experiences, that the legal requirements are generally valid, logical and most necessary. The "great" discovery we have made is that a campaign of this order and dimension cannot be projected by shoestrings.

In 1972, we thought that our primary responsibility was to handle contributors' monies safely and honestly. We did not then sufficiently appreciate the equally critical need for, and the deep implications of, rigidly precise and detailed public disclosure. More simply stated, in 1972, like most other Americans, we scarcely imagined the kind and extent of the political pollution and corruption which became revealed in post-Watergate 1973.

We unreservedly subscribe to the fullest possible disclosure of campaign financing. Justice Holmes' admonition that, "The best disinfectant is the light of day", is more apt today than ever. Therefore, we pledge that, in the next campaign, we will do better record-keeping and reporting.

#### Alleged "Possible Misuse of \$23,000 Surplus"

The most shocking distortion of fact, widely-published in news reports, was the allegation of "possible misuse of a \$23,000 surplus" by the committee. Some of the news reports even implied that the alleged "possible misuse" was by Mrs. Chisholm.

This reckless allegation was somehow extrapolated from data in an audit report made by the General Accounting Office.

The audit report showed the existence of a surplus as of a specified date. The calculations in the audit, of course, did not take into account the substantial bills which were presented to the committee after the period covered by the audit. When those bills were paid by the committee, not only was the temporary surplus wiped out, but a deficit loomed large.

Certainly there were times when the committee held funds in surplus. However, soon after the Democratic national convention adjourned, a fresh bunch of bills confronted the committee. Quickly, a seeming surplus became converted into a deficit.

Only recently has the committee been able to finally liquidate the last of its debts.

In the accompanying report, all transactions of the committee, from the first to the last, are recorded. Consequently, the report naturally eliminates the misleading appearance of a surplus or of a deficit at intermediate stages of the committee's existence.

#### Alleged Illegal Corporate Contributions

The General Accounting Office cited as an "apparent violation" three contributions to the committee made by corporations.

Among the thousands of contributions received by the committee, there came contributions from three personally-held corporations. One such contribution was for \$100; another was for \$200; and the third, from White Plains Manor, Inc., was for \$386. These contributions were duly noted in the committee's records, duly deposited in the committee's bank account, and duly stated in the committee's reports to the General Accounting Office.

The committee now understands that such contributions, even by one-person corporations, are not legal. Apparently, this has long been the law. Accordingly, the first two corporations have been reimbursed. The third corporation, White Plains Manor, Inc., cannot be located by the committee. However, it has been learned that its \$386 check was actually a transmittal to accommodate a group of Hispanic-American women who had raised the funds in an affair for the benefit of the Chisholm campaign, conducted at the corporation's facilities.

This "apparent violation" by the Chisholm committee was also heralded in a front-page news item as a subject of Federal investigation.

Whereupon, several days following this news item, none other than President Nixon proclaimed that both parties had received tainted money in 1972, and he was reported as having further declared: "Some of that -- came from corporate sources and was illegal because the

law had been changed and apparently people didn't know it". Thus, millions of dollars in cash criminally passed under the table by sophisticated pillars of our corporate society to other sophisticated pillars of our society were equated with \$300 in two corporation checks received and recorded openly and publicly by this committee. Quite an equation!!

#### Failure to Name a Committee Chairman

The General Accounting Office cited as another "apparent violation" the committee's failure to name a chairman.

The committee's registration statement, filed on June 1, 1972, listed as officers a treasurer and an assistant treasurer. Our reason for not listing a chairman at that time is now obscure even to us. We knew that we wanted and needed two signatories to safeguard bank withdrawals; so that we did designate a treasurer and an assistant treasurer for this purpose. Just why a chairman was not named, as such, at that time, we do not remember.

After the filing of the registration statment, we simply forgot that a chairman, as such, had not been designated. The matter did not come to our attention again, that is, not until more than a year later, when we were reminded by the General Accounting Office that the committee did not have anyone designated as a chairman.

#### CONCLUSION

In the accompanying report, the committee has presented a full account of all of its financial transactions. As far as possible, the U. S. Comptroller General's regulations have been complied with. In several relatively minor respects, compliance has not been possible because of the irretrievability of the information. However, the committee has compiled and substantially supplied the data vital to the law's objective of adequate disclosure. In fact, in various respects, much specific information set forth in the report exceeds the reporting requirements of the General Accounting Office.

The committee hopes, perhaps vainly, to be able to bring this statement and report to the attention of the innumerable persons who were impressed with the published news reports which were unfortunately based upon incomplete data. In any event, the committee will do whatever is possible to disseminate this information among thousands of Congresswoman Chisholm's supporters throughout the nation.

Dated, January / 1974

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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUST E-FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:	1 - USA, EDNÝ
Report of:	Office: New York, New York
Field Office File #:	56-488 Bureau File #:
Title:	SHIRLEY CHISHOLM FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE, b6
Character:	18 USC 610 ELECTION LAWS
Synopsis:	On 4/23/74, and and advised that they wished to abide by the advice
<u>DETAILS:</u>	I, and not consent to personal interview I. Investigation concluded.  -C-  This report contains the results of a <u>limited</u> tion.  YN, NEW YORK
April 18,	Repeated attempts between March 25, 1974 and 1974; to personally and telephonically contact
,	were unsuccessful.
	In an effort to locate both, was contacted on April 22, 1974.

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interview	the Federal	. Bureau of been cond	Investige h	gation (FE Ls knowled	I). The ge of	
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3 3.15 -		Brooklyn,	New York		NY 56-48	``````````````````````````````````````

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Date of transcription 4/24/77

was contacted at his place of employment

He advised that he wished to abide by the advice of his
who had previously advised him not to
consent to interview by the Federal Bureau of Investigation
(FBI) because of the possibility of the existence of a
technical violation involved in the matter of campaign
contributions to the SHIRLEY CHISHOIM for President Committee
in 1972.

Interviewed on 4/23/74 of Brooklyn; New York File # NY 56-488

by SA Date dictated 4/23/74

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# Inquity Clearing Rep. Chisholm Oi Election Campaign Charges

By MARTIN TOLCHIN

WASHINGTON April 23 he Justice Department has

virtually, absolved Representa-tive Shirley Chisholm Democrat of Brooklyn, and the Presi-dential campaign committee of charges of having mishadled

campaign/funds

The charges were made last fall by the General Accounting Office in a 10-page report which was referred to the Justice:Department/for:legal/action basedion/what/the G.A.O.

called "apparent violations" of

election and corporate laws.

\*\*The case is substantially closed." a justice Department spokesman said today Line Plained that charges

of misconduct could not be substantiated by the depart, ment and that other charges including failure to keep records of contributions and ex

peditures; inad since been re-medied; "The Justice Department added; however, that the case was not completely closed be cause a couple of minor mat

ters, are still pending." A spokesman for the G.A.O. asked to comment, replied, "All we do is to refer apparen violations of the law. The action is up to them

he added, referring to the

Justice Department.

, Mrs. Chisholm, asked for her reactiod, "Idon't want to comment on the situation at all."

The G.A.O. report found that the campaign committee stinial report showed a \$6,000 defi-cit, while in reality, it had a surplus of more than \$18,000. Mrs. (Chisholm, contended that the report had been erroneously filed as a final report eight months after election:

day, 1972; and nearly a year after Mrs. Chisholm had ended her campaign as the first black woman to seek the Presidential nomination of a major party. 1/4

The G.A.O. report also found that Mrs. Chisholm's campaign that Mrs. Chisholm's campaign committee had "failed to record the mailing' address occupation or place of business of persons to whom expenditures were made as required by law. Mrs. Chisholm contended that her campaign had been run by poor people who were intexperienced in presidential politics and were ignorant of the requirements of the law.

Husband Named

The G.A.O also found that The GA O also found that the Presidential; campaign funds were under the supervision of Conrad; chisholm, Mrs. Chisholms, husband, although he was not listed as treasurer nor did he hold any other office [Mr. Comrad Chisholm [the candidate's husband], whose name is not listed on any report or statement filed by the

port or statement filed by the committee, appears to have controlled all committee receipts and expenditures, ale GAO report said. "He deposited all receipts of the committee; and he signed all checks which were then; co-signed by either, Mr. [Cliffi Gisene [Tfeasurer], or Mr. [Trevor]

Spence Assistant Treasurer Mrs. Chisholm has contended that the investigations were an attempt "to get ine" and asserted that she had been "singled out" by the Nixon Administration for "investigation" and "harassment" because of her independent political stance against most of the Administra-

tion's policies The GAO is the fact, an in-dependent agency of Congress The agency also has referred to the Justice Department numer ous complaints involving local committees for the Presidential committees for the Fresident and campaigns of Bresident Nixon Senator George S. McGovern Senator Edmund S. Muskie, and Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama A. Justice Department spokesman 'said that criminal information shady, been filed against the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President, but that there had been few prose-cutions for election fraud:

Inspection Intell. Laboratory \_ Plan. & Eval. \_ Spec. Inv. \_ Training \_\_\_ Legal Coun. \_ Telephone Rm. \_\_\_ Director Sec'y \_\_

Assoc. Dir

Dep. AD Adm Dep. AD Inv. Asst. Dir.: Admin. Comp. Syst.

b7C



The Washington Post \_ Washington Star-News \_ Daily News (New York) The New York Times The Wall Street Journal. The National Observer The Los Angeles Times \_

Date APR 24:1974

PIAGO

## FB1

	Date: APR 2 9 1976
Transmit the following	ng in
	(Type in plaintext or code)
Via	
	(Precedence)
TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM:	ADIC, NEW YORK (56-488) (P)
SUBJECT:	
that invetthe sole contribut AUSA DAWS	more MAY 1976 ngeles
M	

Sent\_

Special Agent in Charge

NY-56-488

Name and Address		
of Contributor	Amount	Date
	\$1,000,00	6/28/72
	\$1,000,00	5/25/72
	\$1,100.00	4/12/72 - 4/20/72
	\$5,000.00	5/25/72
*Records of US Postal" does not list Baltimo	Service, Directory of Pore as a city in Indiana.	st.Offices,
	\$ 750.00	5/25/72
	\$1,000.00	5/25/72
	\$2,600.00	5/25/72

### LEADS

All offices conduct logical investigation to identify persons listed above. If identified, these persons should be interviewed to determine whether they in fact did make a contribution to the SHIRLEY CHISHOLM For President Committee. In addition, confirm the amount contributed, to whom the contribution was made, and obtain any record such as a canceled check.

NY 56-488

All persons interviewed must be advised at the outset that this investigation is being conducted at the specific request of the US Dept. of Justice.

When submitting results of investigation requested, please furnish the NYO with FD-302s or investigative inserts so that the NYO may include the results of this investigation into a report.

Submit results of your investigation within 15 days of the receipt of this communication.

#### Amoi

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976	di plui célulo dels dili celler c	initi in cloud.
MAY 0 5 1973		
	NOTE: At the request of the Department, an been conducted during March-April, 1974, int Shirley Chisholm for President Committee wi	o the activities of the th particular attention being
Assoc. Dir Dep. AD Adm Dep. AD Inv Asst. Dir.: Admin	paid to the determining of whether any corpor contributions to this committee. The results forwarded to the Department 4/24/74 without being requested or any prosecution resulting	of this investigation were any additional investigation from this investigation.
Comp. Syst Ext. Affairs Files & Com Gen. Inv Ident	On 4/28/76, AUSA, EDNY, requested this campaign committee by reinstituting to decontributors did, in fact, contribute to the Sh Committee.	etermine if certain campaign 🦠
Intell Laboratòry Plán. & Eval	CONTINUED - OVER	<b>EO</b> MAY 7 1976

Spec. Inv. \_ Training \_\_\_

Legal County 5 MAY 2 7 1976

Director Sec. MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

GPO 934-546

	Airtel to ADIC, New York	
	RE:	, ,
Ne.		1- C
	On 5/3/76, Criminal Division, USDJ, was advised of	b6 h7
	the AUSA's, EDNY, request for reinstituting this investigation.	~ /
	stated that all investigation should be held in abeyance until he had an	
,	opportunity to confer with the AUSA re his request.	,
	obborgainth to comor wint pic trobit to um reducers	
٠	All Offices having outstanding leads were telephonically advised to	
•	hold this investigation in abeyance.	
	india time investigation in anevance.	
	On 5/4/76, advised that following his discussion with	•
	the AUSA, EDNY, it was resolved that the matter in question in whether	b6
		b7
•	for President Committee, was no longer germane since the statute had	
	runidvised in election law matters, there was only a 3-year	
	statute and since the contributions in question reportedly were made	
	during 1972, this matter is no longer covered under the Statute of	
	Limitations	٠

This airtel is advising all Offices, who had outstanding leads, that no investigation should be conducted and that this matter is closed.

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M	W: Airtel	
Transmit in	Via Via (Priority)	
Ċ	NOTE OF THE CONTROL OF THE SECOND OF THE SEC	       
	18 ESC 610 ELECTION LAWS	ナソラ
non one	Enclosed are two copies of a self-explanatory Departmental letter dated 1/10/74 with enclosure.	HIS MARGIN.)
LLL ofthe (This line for LEFT MARGIN.)	Complete the requested investigation in accordance with the provisions of Section 35. Volume II., Manual of Instructions, and surep within 15 days of the receipt of this communication.  State in the first paragraph of the details of your report that it contains the results of a limited investigation and underscore the word limited	Do not type BEYOND THIS MARGIN.)
(This	Advise all persons interviewed appropriate officials at the outset that this investigation is being conducted at the specific request of the U.S. Department of Justice.	(Do
*	Remarks: The Bureau will handle the contact with Congresswoman Chisholm's Office advising that investigation has been requested by the Department.	,
	Enc. (4) Ex. 110	*
	(Do not type below his line.)  JAN 15 1974	

57JAN 21 1974 TÉLETYPE UNIT

MAILED 25 JAN 1 4 1974 FBI